ABSTRACT

A system (**50, 150**) for assisting a user (**14**) to determine whether a hyperlink (**152**) to a target uniform resource locator (URL) is spoofed. A computerized system having a display unit is provided and logic (**158**) therein listens for activation of the hyperlink (**152**) in a message (**154**). The logic (**158**) extracts an originator identifier (**102**) and encrypted data from the hyperlink (**152**), and decrypts the encrypted data into decrypted data based on the originator identifier (**102**). The logic (**158**) determines whether the hyperlink (**152**) includes the originator identifier (**102**) and the encrypted data decrypts successfully. Responsive to this it then presents a confirmation of authentication conveying the name of the owner and the domain name of the target URL on the display unit, and it redirects the user (**14**) to the target URL. Otherwise, it presents a warning dialog to the user (**14**) on the display unit.